LEISURE ARTS

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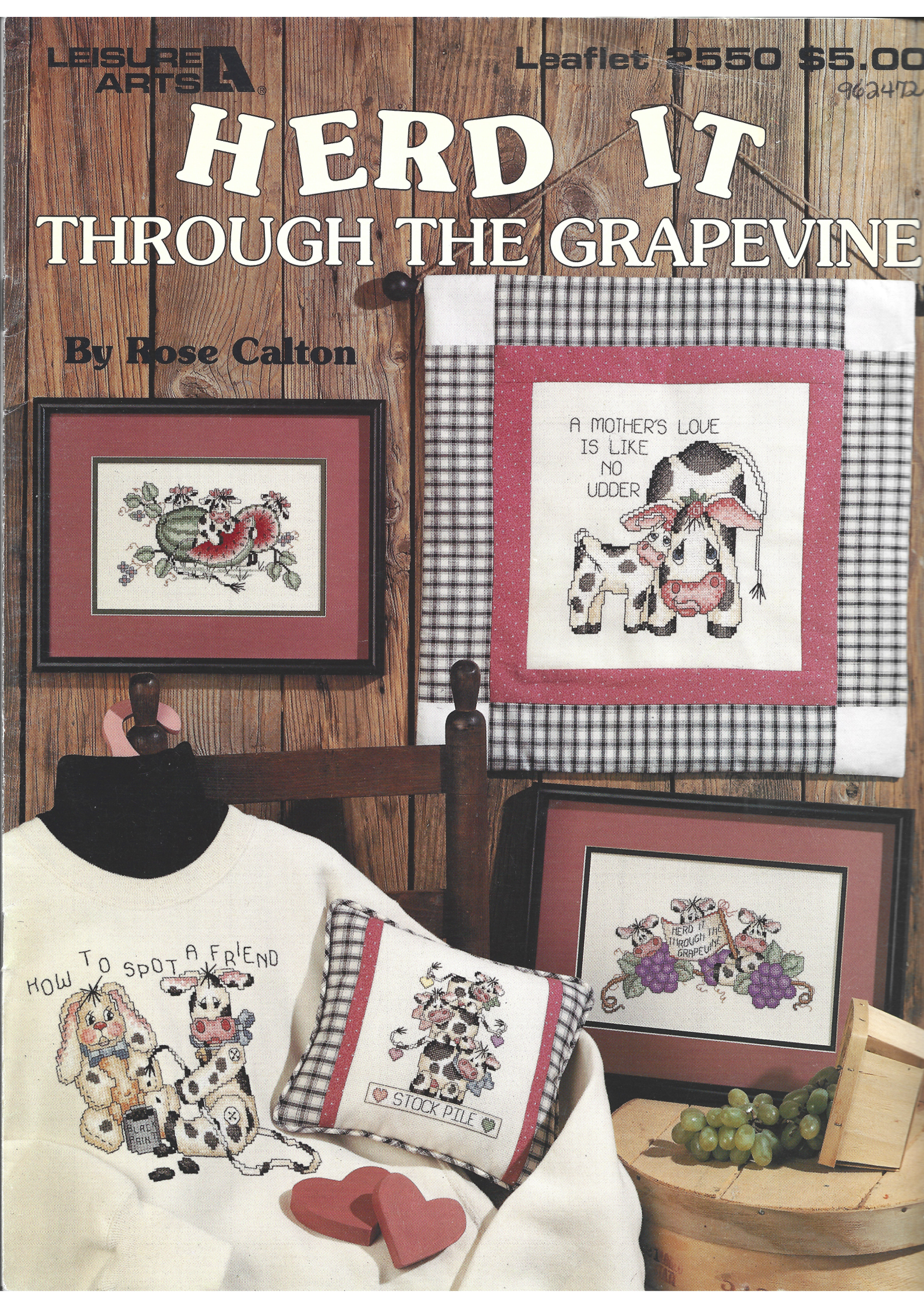
HERD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

By Rose Calton



GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

WORKING WITH CHARTS

How To Read Charts: Each of the designs is shown in chart form. Each colored square on the charts represents one Cross Stitch or one Half Cross Stitch. Each colored triangle on the charts represents one Quarter Stitch. Colored dots represent French Knots. Colored ovals represent Lazy Daisy Stitches. The straight lines on the charts indicate Backstitch. When a French Knot, Lazy Daisy Stitch, or Backstitch covers a square, the symbol is omitted.

Each chart is accompanied by a color key. This key indicates the color of floss to use for each stitch on the chart. The headings on the color key are for Cross Stitch (**X**), DMC color number (**DMC**), Quarter Stitch (**¼X**), Half Cross Stitch (**½X**), Backstitch (**B'ST**), Anchor color number (**ANC.**), and color name (**COLOR**). Color key columns should be read vertically and horizontally to determine type of stitch and floss color.

How To Determine Finished Size: The finished size of your design will depend on the **thread count per inch** of the fabric being used. To determine the finished size of the design on different fabrics, divide the number of squares (stitches) in the width of the charted design by the thread count of the fabric. For example, a charted design with a width of 80 squares worked on 14 count Aida will yield a design 5¾" wide. Repeat for the number of squares (stitches) in the height of the charted design. *(**Note:** To work over two fabric threads, divide the number of squares by one-half the thread count.)* Then add the amount of background you want plus a generous amount for finishing.

For ease in determining finished size, use the table below. In the left-hand column, find the approximate number of stitches in the width or height of the charted design. Follow the line across the column to find the design size under the appropriate fabric thread count.

THREAD COUNT PER INCH OF FABRIC		14	16	18	22
NUMBER OF STITCHES IN DESIGN (Width or Height)	10	¾	⅝	⅝	½
	20	1 ½	1 ¼	1 ⅛	1
	30	2 ¼	1 ⅞	1 ¾	1 ⅜
	40	2 ⅞	2 ½	2 ¼	1 ⅞
	50	3 ⅝	3 ⅛	2 ⅞	2 ⅜
	60	4 ⅜	3 ¾	3 ⅜	2 ¾
	70	5	4 ⅜	4	3 ¼
	80	5 ¾	5	4 ½	3 ¾
	90	6 ½	5 ⅝	5	4 ⅛
	100	7 ¼	6 ¼	5 ⅝	4 ⅝

Where To Start: The horizontal and vertical centers of each charted design are shown by arrows. You may start at any point on the charted design, but be sure the design will be centered on the fabric. Locate the center of fabric by folding in half, top to bottom and again left to right. On the charted design, count the number of squares (stitches) from the center of the chart to where you wish to start. Then from the fabric's center, find your starting point by counting out the same number of fabric threads (stitches). *(**Note:** To work over two fabric threads, count out twice the number of fabric threads.)*

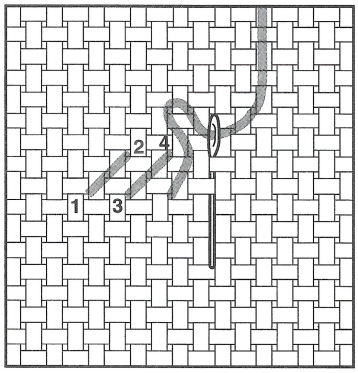
STITCHING TIPS

Preparing Fabric: Being sure to allow plenty of margin, cut fabric desired size and overcast raw edges. It is better to waste a little fabric than to come up short after hours of stitching!

Preparing Floss: To ensure smoother stitches, separate strands and realign them before threading needle. Keep stitching tension consistent. Begin and end floss by running under several stitches on back; never tie knots.

Working Over Two Fabric Threads: Use the sewing method instead of the stab method when working over two fabric threads. To use the sewing method, keep your stitching hand on the right side of the fabric (instead of stabbing the fabric with the needle and taking your stitching hand to the back of the fabric to pick up the needle). With the sewing method, you take the needle down and up with one stroke instead of two. To add support to stitches, it is important that the first Cross Stitch is placed on the fabric with stitch 1-2 beginning and ending where a vertical fabric thread crosses over a horizontal fabric thread ***(Fig. 1)***. When the first stitch is in the correct position, the entire design will be placed properly, with vertical fabric threads supporting each stitch.

Fig. 1



Using Waste Canvas: Cut canvas 2" larger than design; baste to project. To give a firmer stitching base when working on knit fabric, cut a piece of lightweight interfacing 2" larger than hoop and baste to wrong side of fabric. Place project in hoop with interfacing taut and knit fabric loose. Work design using a sharp needle. Trim canvas to within ¾" of design. Dampen canvas slightly to remove sizing. Use tweezers to pull out canvas threads one at a time. Trim interfacing close to design.

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STITCH DIAGRAMS

Counted Cross Stitch (X): Work one Cross Stitch to correspond to each colored square on the chart. For horizontal rows, work stitches in two journeys ***(Fig. 2)***. For vertical rows, complete each stitch as shown ***(Fig. 3)***. When working over two fabric threads, work Cross Stitch as shown in **Fig. 4**. When the chart shows a Backstitch crossing a colored square ***(Fig. 5)***, a Cross Stitch ***(Fig. 2, 3, or 4)*** should be worked first; then the Backstitch ***(Fig. 10 or 11)*** should be worked on top of the Cross Stitch.

Fig. 2

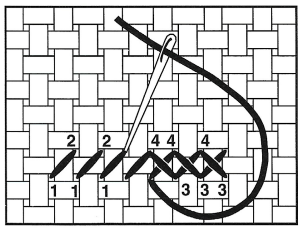


Fig. 3

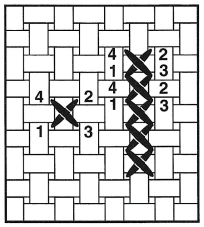


Fig. 4

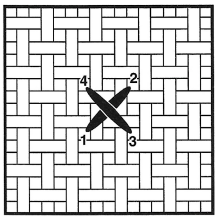
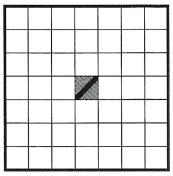


Fig. 5



Half Cross Stitch (½X): This stitch is one journey of the Cross Stitch and is worked from lower left to upper right as shown in **Fig. 6**. When working over two fabric threads, work Half Cross Stitch as shown in **Fig. 7**.

Fig. 6

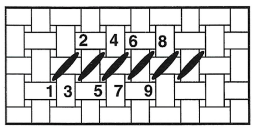
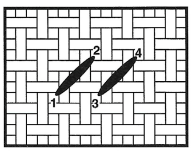


Fig. 7



Quarter Stitch (¼X): Quarter Stitches are denoted by triangular shapes of color on the chart and on the color key. Come up at 1 ***(Fig. 8)***; then split fabric thread to go down at 2. **Fig. 9** shows the technique for Quarter Stitch when working over two fabric threads.

Fig. 8

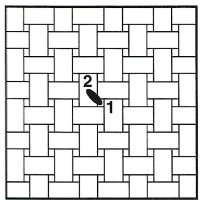
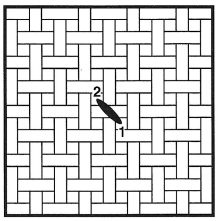


Fig. 9



Backstitch (B'ST): For outline detail, Backstitch (shown on chart and on color key by colored straight lines) should be worked after the design has been completed ***(Fig. 10)***. When working over two fabric threads, work Backstitch as shown in **Fig. 11**.

Fig. 10

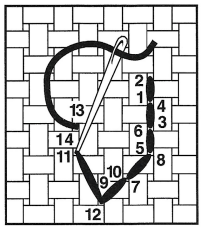
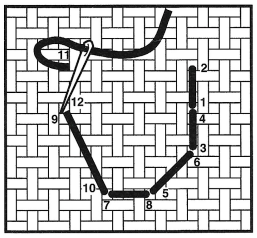
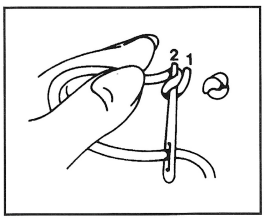


Fig. 11



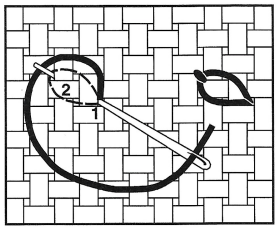
French Knot: Bring needle up at 1. Wrap floss once around needle and insert needle at 2, holding end of floss with non-stitching fingers ***(Fig. 12)***. Tighten knot; then pull needle through fabric, holding floss until it must be released. For larger knot, use more strands; wrap only once.

Fig. 12



Lazy Daisy Stitch: Bring needle up at 1 and make a loop. Go down at 1 and come up at 2, keeping floss below point of needle ***(Fig. 13)***. Pull needle through and go down at 2 to anchor loop, completing stitch. ***(Note:*** *To support stitches, it may be helpful to go down in edge of next fabric thread when anchoring loop.)*

Fig. 13



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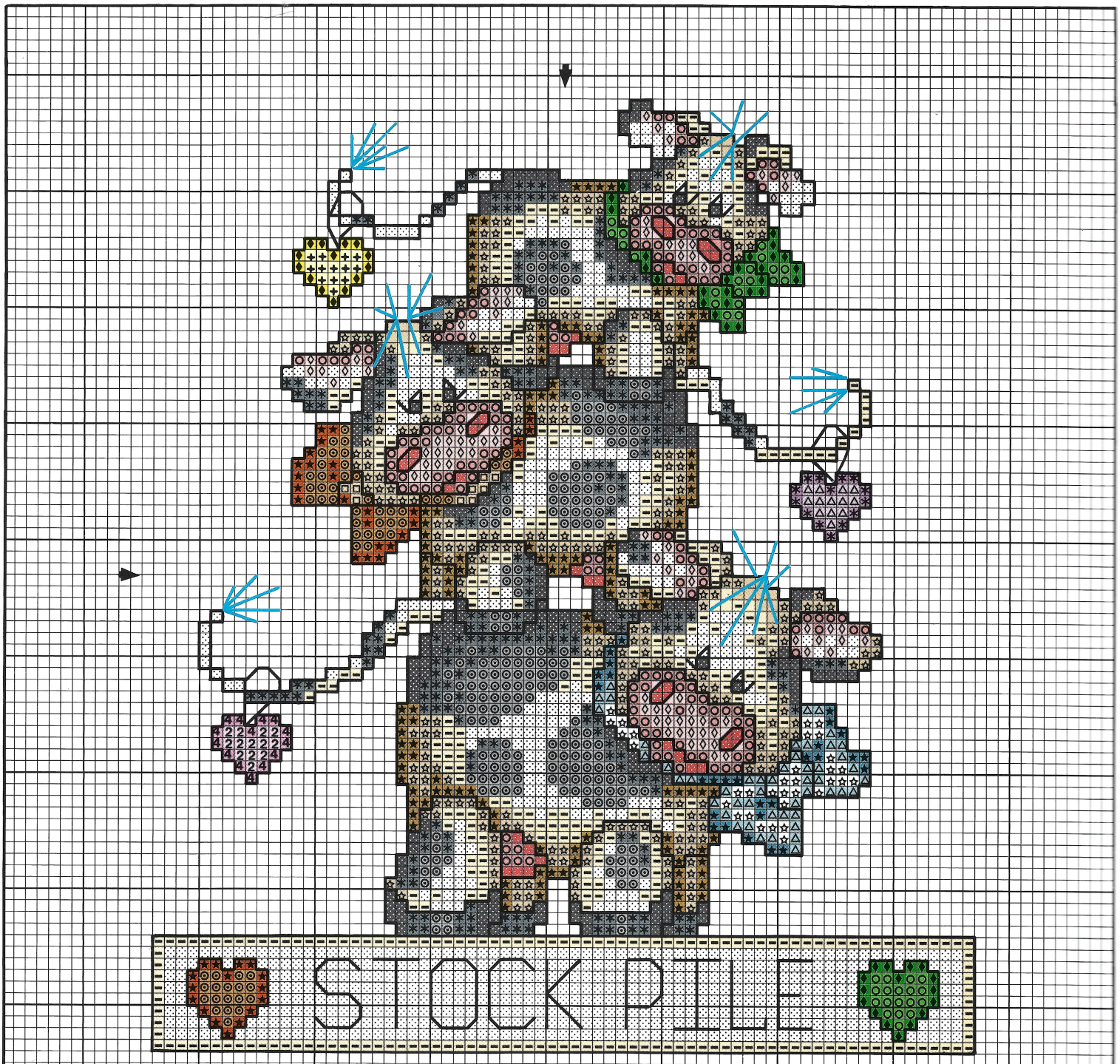


STOCKPILE (71w x 82h)

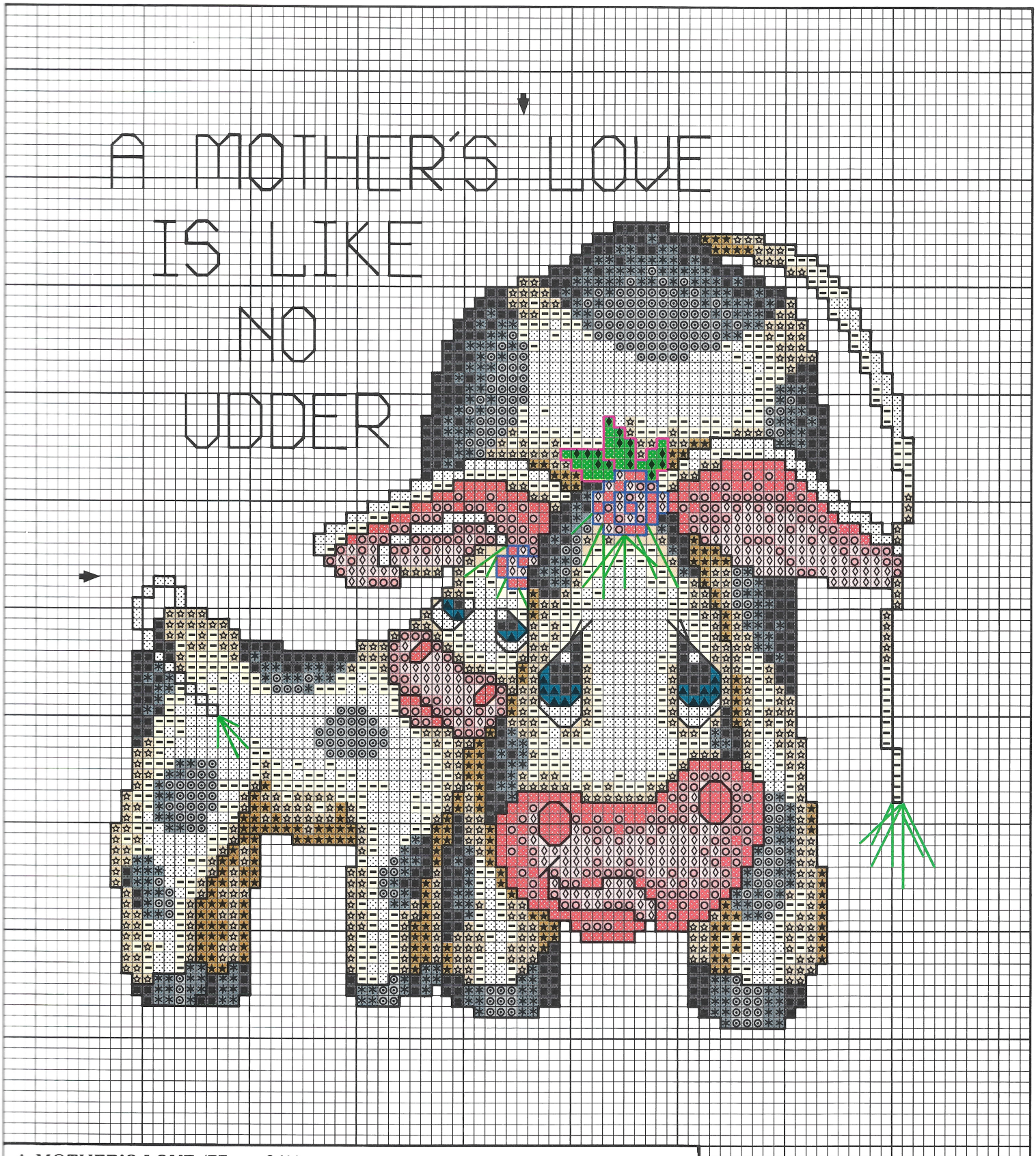
X	DMC	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
⁘	blanc		2	white
✱	209		109	lavender
△	210		108	lt lavender
▩	310	⁄	403	black
	310	⁄ *	403	black
♦	320		215	green
★	352		9	dk peach
⊙	353		6	peach
○	368		214	lt green
◎	645		273	lt pewter grey
−	712		926	cream
★	738		361	beige
☆	739		387	lt beige

X	DMC	¼X	ANC.	COLOR
♦	744		301	yellow
+	745		300	lt yellow
▫	754		1012	lt peach
○	760	◪	1022	coral
◊	761	◪	1021	lt coral
✱	844		1041	pewter grey
4	899		52	pink
★	931		1034	blue
△	932		1033	lt blue
2	3326		36	lt pink
▩	3328	◪	1024	dk coral
☆	3753		1031	vy lt blue

* Use long, loose stitches.

STOCKPILE (71w x 82h)

14 count	5⅛″	x	5⅞″
16 count	4½″	x	5⅛″
18 count	4″	x	4⅝″
22 count	3¼″	x	3¾″



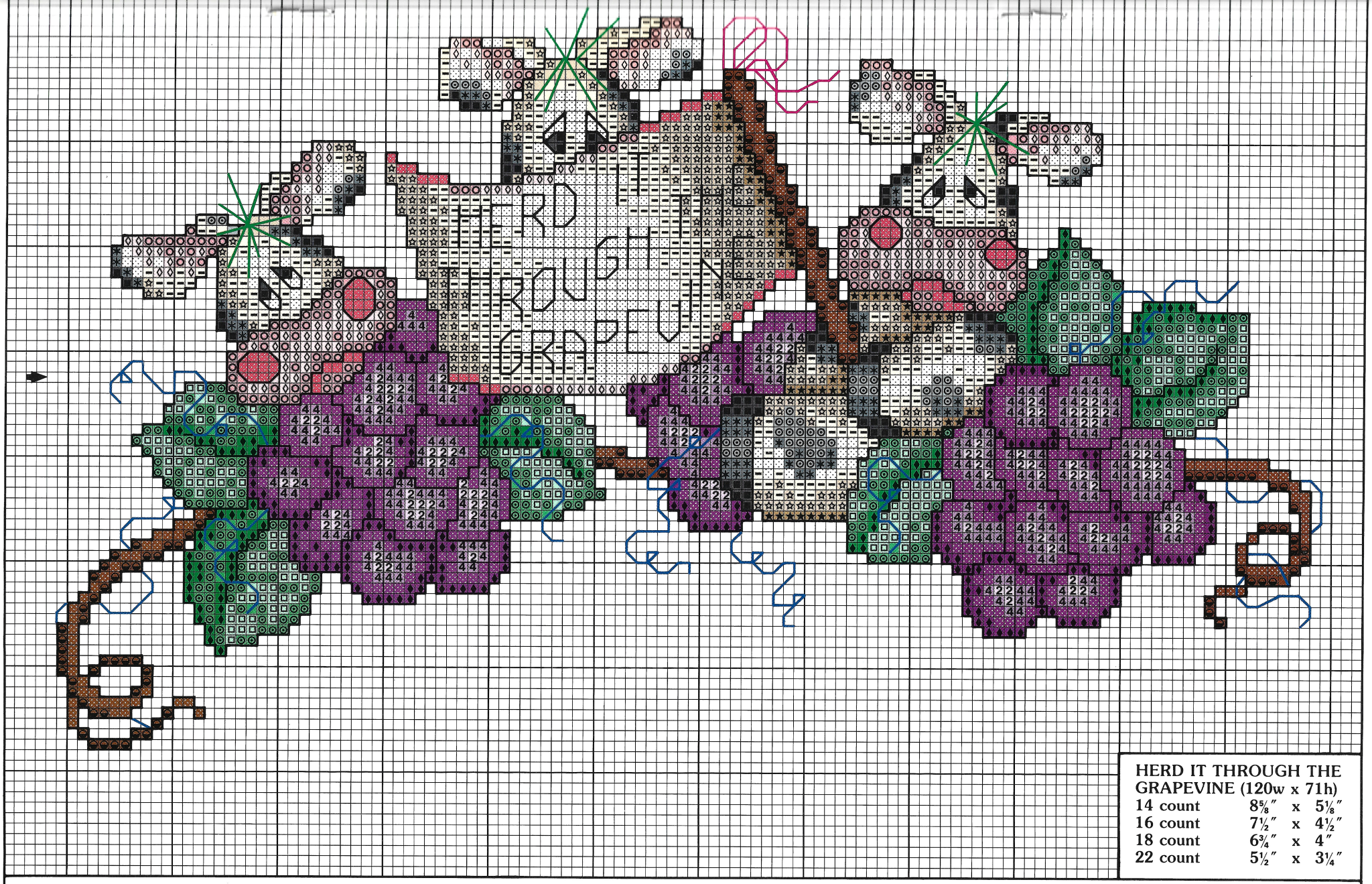
A MOTHER'S LOVE (77w x 84h)

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
	blanc			2	white
	310			403	black
	310		*	403	black
	319			218	vy dk green
	320			215	green
	367			217	dk green
	498			1005	red
	645			273	lt pewter grey
	712			926	cream
	738			361	beige
	739			387	lt beige
	760			1022	coral
	761			1021	lt coral
	844			1041	pewter grey
	930			1035	dk blue
	3328			1024	dk coral

* Use long, loose stitches.

A MOTHER'S LOVE
(77w x 84h)

14 count	5½″	x	6″
16 count	4⅞″	x	5¼″
18 count	4⅜″	x	4¾″
22 count	3½″	x	3⅞″



HERD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE (120w x 71h)

14 count	8⅝″ x 5⅛″
16 count	7½″ x 4½″
18 count	6¾″ x 4″
22 count	5½″ x 3¼″

HERD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE (120w x 71h)

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
	blanc			2	white
	208			110	dk lavender
4	209			109	lavender
2	210			108	lt lavender
	310			403	black
	310		*	403	black

X	DMC	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
	320		215	green
	347		1025	vy dk coral
	368		214	lt green
	369		1043	vy lt green
	434		310	dk tan
	436		1045	tan

X	DMC	¼X	ANC.	COLOR
	552		99	vy dk lavender
	645		273	lt pewter grey
	712		926	cream
	738		361	beige
	739		387	lt beige
	760		1022	coral

X	DMC	¼X	ANC.	COLOR
	761		1021	lt coral
	844		1041	pewter grey
	3328		1024	dk coral

* Use long, loose stitches.

WATERMELON PATCH (106w x 65h)

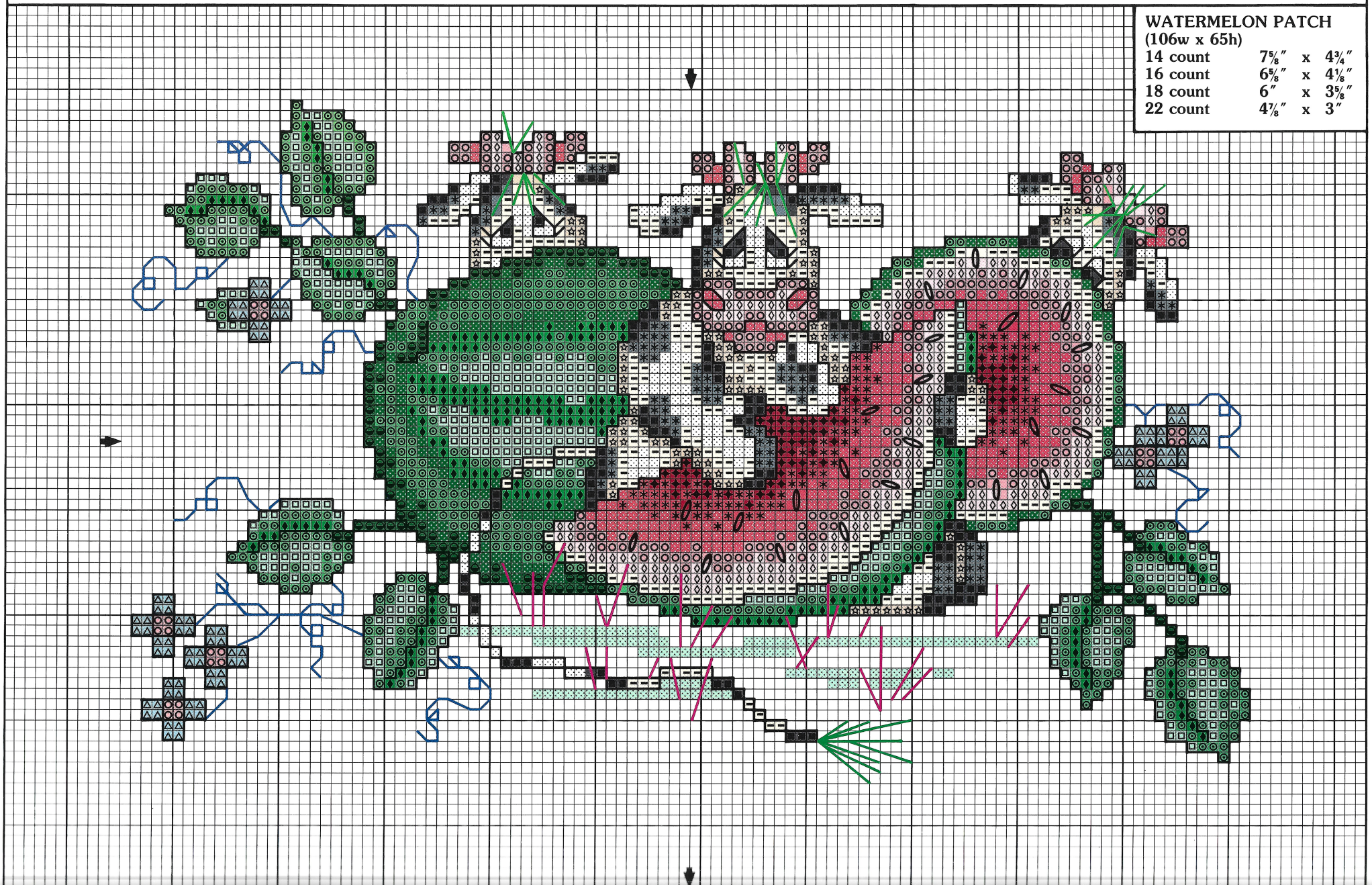
X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
⬚	blanc	⬚		2	white
◆	304			1006	lt red
■	310	◪	◪	403	black
	310		◪ *	403	black
◎	319		◪ *	218	vy dk green

X	DMC	½X	ANC.	COLOR
◆	320		215	green
✱	347		1025	vy dk coral
▩	367	⬚	217	dk green
◎	368		214	lt green
◻	369		1043	vy lt green

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
	434		◪	310	dk tan
-	712	□		926	cream
☆	739			387	beige
◎	760			1022	coral
◊	761	□		1021	lt coral

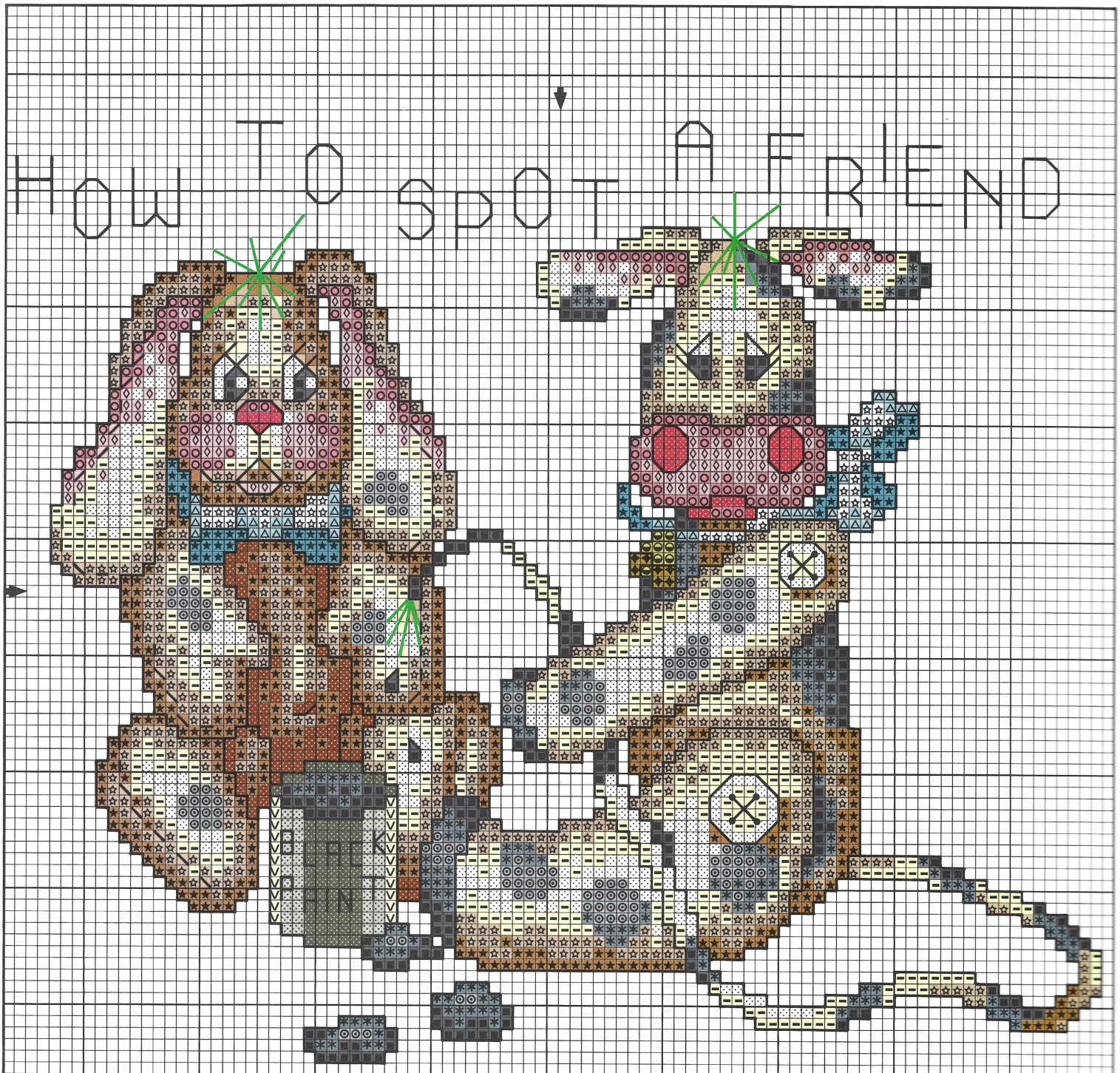
X	DMC	¼X	ANC.	COLOR
✱	844		1041	pewter grey
△	932		1033	lt blue
▩	3328	◪	1024	dk coral
⊘	310		403	black Lazy Daisy

* Use long, loose stitches.



WATERMELON PATCH
(106w x 65h)

14 count	7⅝″	x	4¾″
16 count	6⅝″	x	4⅛″
18 count	6″	x	3⅝″
22 count	4⅞″	x	3″



HOW TO SPOT A FRIEND (94w x 81h)

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
⁘	blanc	⁘		2	white
■	310	◢	╱	403	black
	310		╱ *	403	black
V	317			400	steel grey
⁘	318			399	grey
▩	415			398	lt steel grey
▩	436			1045	tan
◎	645			273	lt pewter grey
⊖	676			891	lt gold
-	712	□		926	cream
✦	729			890	gold
★	738	◢		361	beige

X	DMC	¼X	ANC.	COLOR
☆	739	◢	387	lt beige
○	760	◢	1022	coral
◊	761	◢	1021	lt coral
▩	844		1041	pewter grey
★	931		1034	blue
△	932		1033	lt blue
▩	3328	◢	1024	dk coral
☆	3753		1031	vy lt blue
•	310		403	black Fr. Knot

* Use long, loose stitches.

HOW TO SPOT A FRIEND (94w x 81h)			
14 count	6¾″	x	5⅞″
16 count	5⅞″	x	5⅛″
18 count	5¼″	x	4½″
22 count	4⅜″	x	3¾″

TOMORROW IS (43w x 66h)
MOO (80w x 43h)

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	ANC.	COLOR
⁘	blanc	⁘		2	white
▩	310	◢	◢	403	black
	310		◢ *	403	black
◎	645			273	lt pewter grey
-	712	□		926	cream
☆	739			387	lt beige
○	760	◢		1022	coral
◊	761	□		1021	lt coral
✱	844			1041	pewter grey
▲	930			1035	dk blue
★	931			1034	blue
△	932			1033	lt blue
▩	3328	◢		1024	dk coral
•	310			403	black Fr. Knot

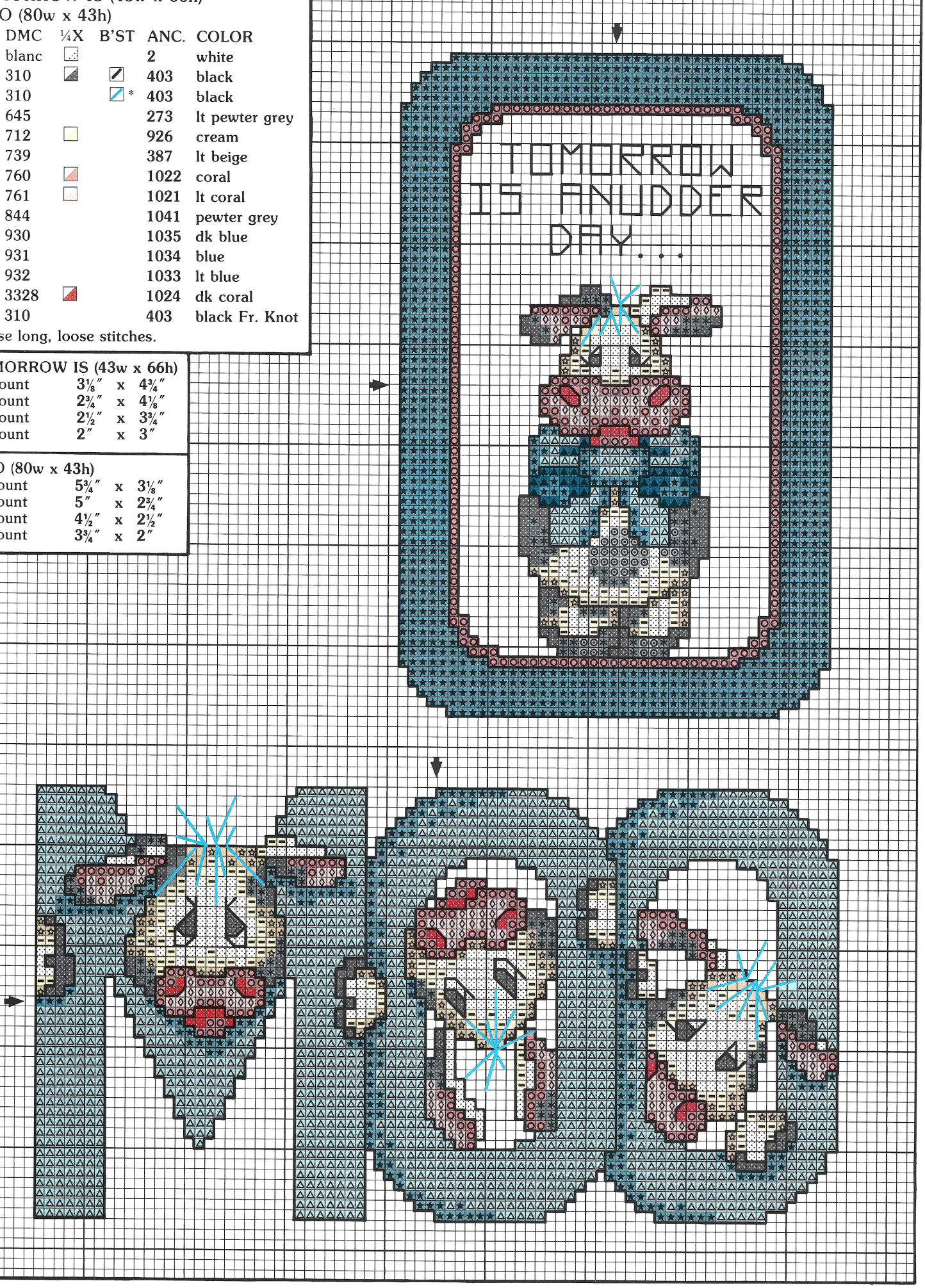
* Use long, loose stitches.

TOMORROW IS (43w x 66h)

14 count	3⅛″	x	4¾″
16 count	2¾″	x	4⅛″
18 count	2½″	x	3¾″
22 count	2″	x	3″

MOO (80w x 43h)

14 count	5¾″	x	3⅛″
16 count	5″	x	2¾″
18 count	4½″	x	2½″
22 count	3¾″	x	2″



FINISHING TECHNIQUES

CORDED PILLOW FINISHING

*(**Note:** Use a ½" seam allowance unless otherwise indicated.)*

Step 1. For pillow top, trim stitched piece to 7¾"w x 10"h. Cut two 1½" x 10" strips of fabric. Matching right sides and raw edges, sew strips to sides of stitched piece. Turn strips right side up and press. Cut two 2½" x 10" strips of fabric. Matching right sides and raw edges, sew strips to attached strips. Turn strips right side up and press. Cut pillow backing same size as pillow top.

Step 2. To make cording, cut a bias strip of fabric 2"w and outer dimension of pillow top plus 1". *(**Note:** This strip may be pieced if necessary.)* Lay purchased cord along center of strip on wrong side of fabric; fold strip over cord. Use zipper foot to machine baste along length of strip close to cord.

Step 3. For cording, start at bottom edge of pillow top and 1" from end of cording. Baste cording to right side of pillow top with finished edge toward center of pillow and raw edges facing outward. Opening ends of cording, cut cord to fit exactly. Insert one end of cording in the other; turn top end under ½" and baste in place. Use zipper foot to sew cording in place along seam line.

Step 4. Matching right sides and raw edges, use zipper foot to sew pillow top to pillow backing along seam line, leaving an opening at bottom edge. Clip seam allowances at corners. Turn pillow right side out, carefully pushing corners outward. Stuff pillow with polyester fiberfill; sew final closure by hand.

RUFFLED PILLOW FINISHING

Step 1. For pillow top, trim stitched piece to desired size plus ½" on all four sides for seam allowances. Cut pillow backing same size as pillow top.

Step 2. To make cording, cut a bias strip of fabric 2"w and outer dimension of pillow top plus 1". *(**Note:** This strip may be pieced if necessary.)* Lay purchased cord along center of strip on wrong side of fabric; fold strip over cord. Use zipper foot to machine baste along length of strip close to cord.

To make ruffle, cut a strip of fabric twice desired finished width plus 1" for seam allowances and twice outer dimension of pillow top (measure edges of pillow top; then double measurement). *(**Note:** This strip may be pieced if necessary.)* Press short ends ½" to wrong side. Fold strip in half lengthwise with wrong sides together and press. Baste close to raw edge. Make another basting seam ¼" from the first. Pull basting threads, drawing up gathers to fit pillow top.

Step 3. For cording, start at bottom edge of pillow top and 1" from end of cording. Baste cording to right side of pillow top with finished edge toward center of pillow and raw edges facing outward. Opening ends of cording, cut cord to fit exactly. Insert one end of cording in the other; turn top end under ½" and baste in place. Use zipper foot to sew cording in place along seam line.

For ruffle, start at bottom edge of pillow top and use zipper foot to sew ruffle to right side of pillow top along seam line with finished edge toward center of pillow and raw edges facing outward. Join ends of ruffle using blind stitches.

Step 4. Matching right sides and raw edges, use zipper foot to sew pillow top to pillow backing along seam line, leaving an opening at bottom edge. Clip seam allowances at corners. Turn pillow right side out, carefully pushing corners outward. Stuff pillow with polyester fiberfill; sew final closure by hand.

MUG FINISHING

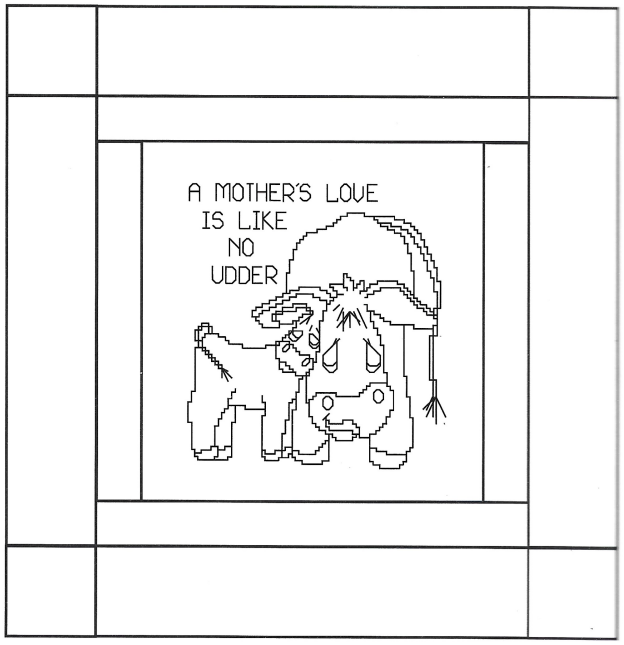
Stitch design on a 10¼"w x 3½"h piece of Vinyl-Weave® (14 ct) beginning 1" from desired short edge and omitting Quarter Stitches. *(**Note:** Stitch design at right end of vinyl if mug is to be used by a right-handed person and at left end of vinyl for aleft-handed person.)* Place Vinyl-Weave® in a Stitch-A-Mug™ with short ends of vinyl aligned with handle. Remove stitched piece before washing mug.

WALL HANGING FINISHING

*(**Note:** Use a ½" seam allowance unless otherwise indicated.)*

Step 1. Center and stitch design over two fabric threads on a 12½"w x 13"h piece of Ivory Aida (18 ct). For wall hanging front, two fabric strip borders are added to stitched piece ***(Fig. 14)***.

Fig. 14



For inner border, cut two 13" x 2½" strips of fabric. Matching right sides and raw edges, sew strips to sides of stitched piece. Turn strips right side up and press. Cut two 15½" x 2½" strips of fabric. Matching right sides and raw edges, sew strips to top and bottom of stitched piece and attached strips. Turn strips right side up and press.

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